



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Virginia Employment Commission

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Virginia's Unemployment Insurance Weekly Claims

— Seasonally unadjusted weekly initial unemployment insurance claims rose sharply from the previous filing week as continued claims broke from its recent declining trend—

RICHMOND—The Virginia Employment Commission (VEC) announced that the number of initial claims filed during the most recent filing week were 9.5% higher than during the comparable week in 2020.

For the filing week ending August 14, the figure for seasonally unadjusted initial claims in Virginia was 16,593. The latest claims figure was an increase of 6,367 claimants from the previous week. This brought the total number of claims filed since the March 21, 2020 filing week to 1,779,179, compared to the 477,600 average filed during the previous three economic recessions since 1990.

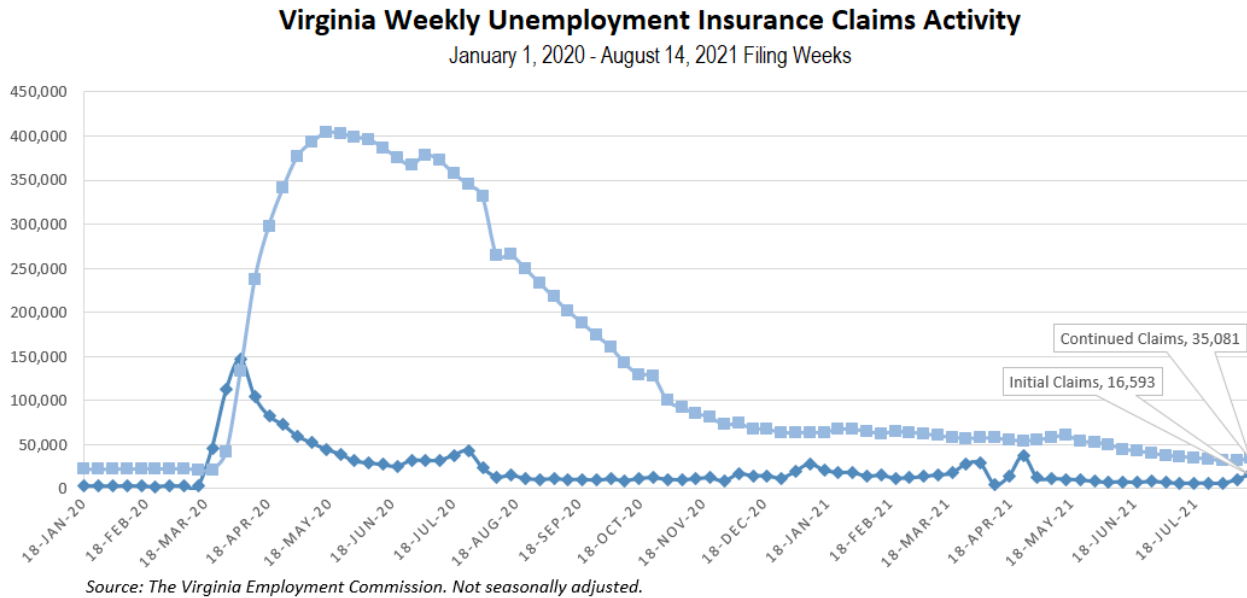
For the most recent filing week, continued weeks claimed totaled 35,081, which was an increase of 3,342 claims from the previous week, but 87% lower than the 265,225 continued claims from the comparable week last year. Over half of claims that had a self-reported industry were in the accommodation and food services, health care and social assistance, retail trade, and administrative and waste services industries. The continued claims total is mainly comprised of those recent initial claimants who continued to file for unemployment insurance benefits during the COVID-19 pandemic.

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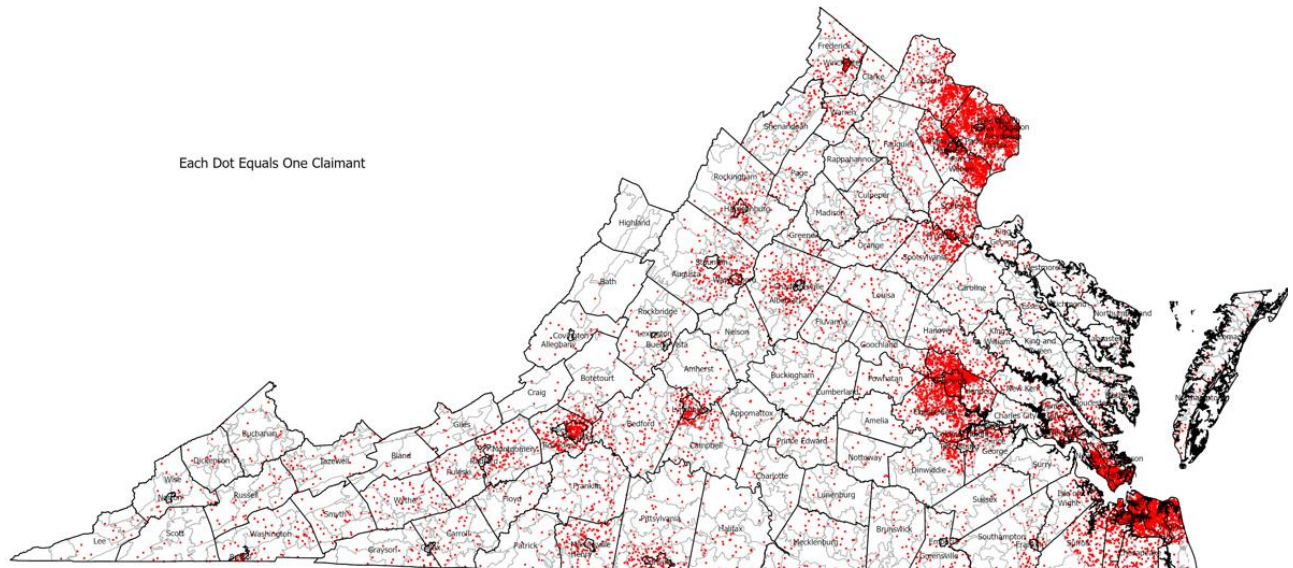
For additional information on who is claiming unemployment insurance in Virginia, access the VEC's [U.I. claims data dashboard](https://www.vec.virginia.gov/ui-claims-dashboard) (<https://www.vec.virginia.gov/ui-claims-dashboard>) that is updated no later than the following Monday after the weekly claims press release.



Nationwide, in the week ending August 14, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted initial claims was 348,000, a decrease of 29,000 from the previous week's revised level. This is the lowest level for initial claims since March 14, 2020 when it was 256,000. The previous week's level was revised up by 2,000 from 375,000 to 377,000. The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 308,574 in the week ending August 14, a decrease of 14,469 (or -4.5 percent) from the previous week. There were 879,545 initial claims in the comparable week in 2020. Looking at preliminary data, more states reported decreases on a seasonally unadjusted basis. Texas's preliminary weekly change (-8,311) was the largest decrease. Illinois's preliminary weekly change (-3,577) was the second largest decrease. Kentucky's preliminary weekly change (-2,259) was the third largest decrease. Michigan's decline was the fourth largest increase (-2,188). Virginia's jump (+7,051) was the largest weekly increase.

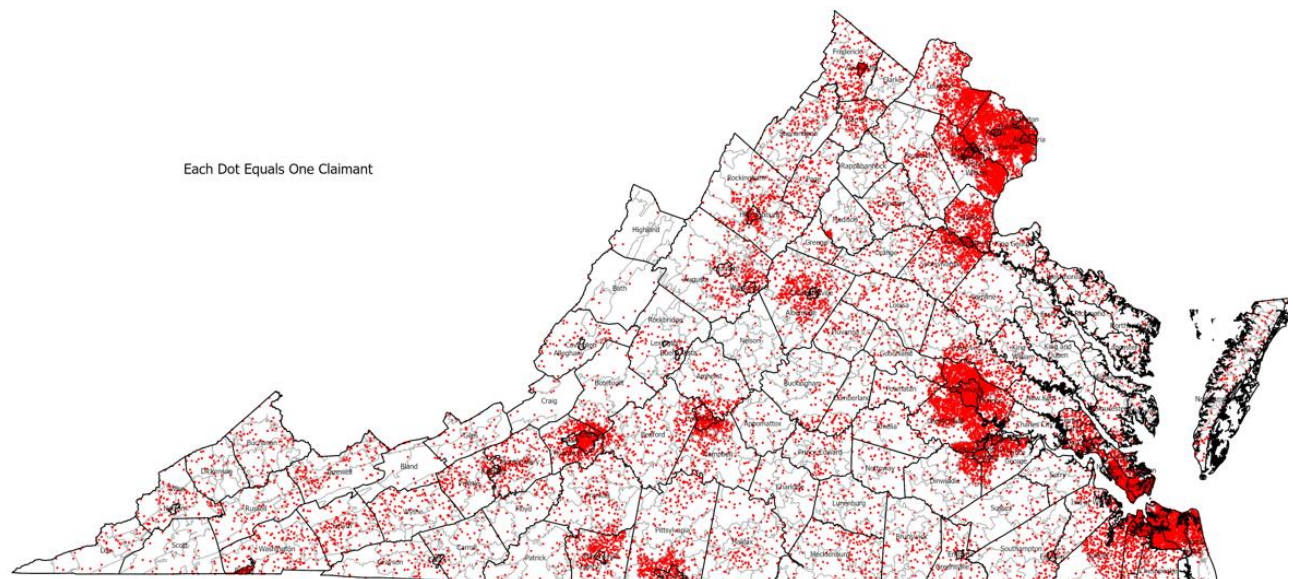
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Initial Unemployment Insurance Claimants by Zip Code Week Ending August 14, 2021



Map produced by Virginia Employment Commission, Economic Information & Analytics Division, August 2021

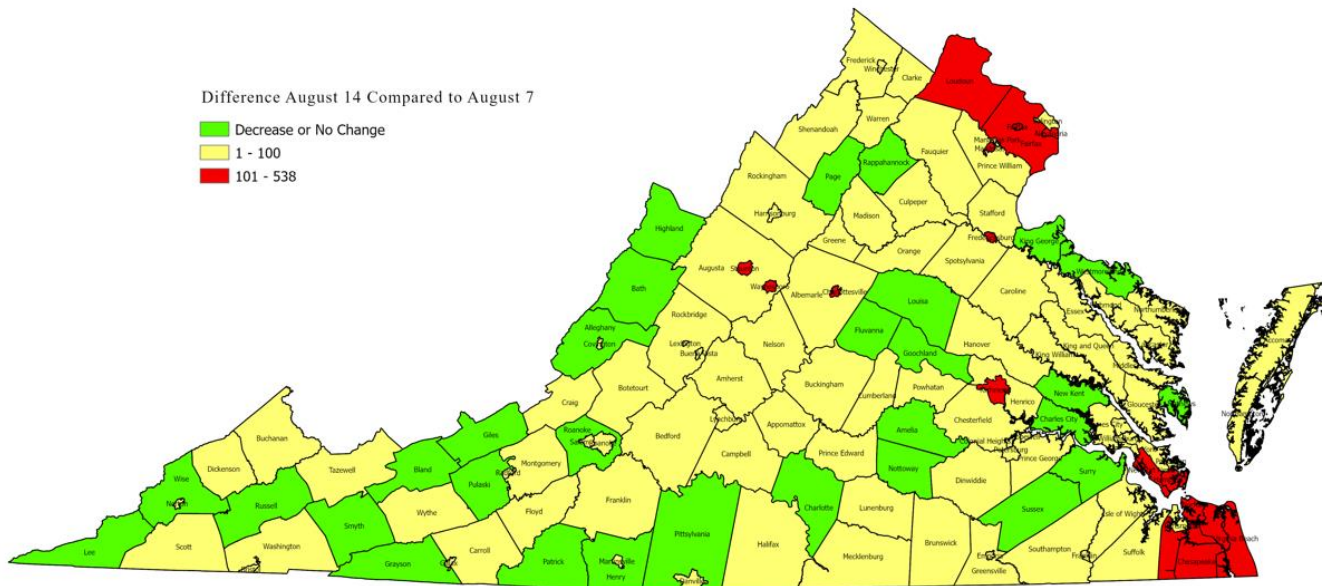
Continued Unemployment Insurance Claimants by Zip Code Week Ending August 14, 2021



Map produced by Virginia Employment Commission, Economic Information & Analytics Division, August 2021

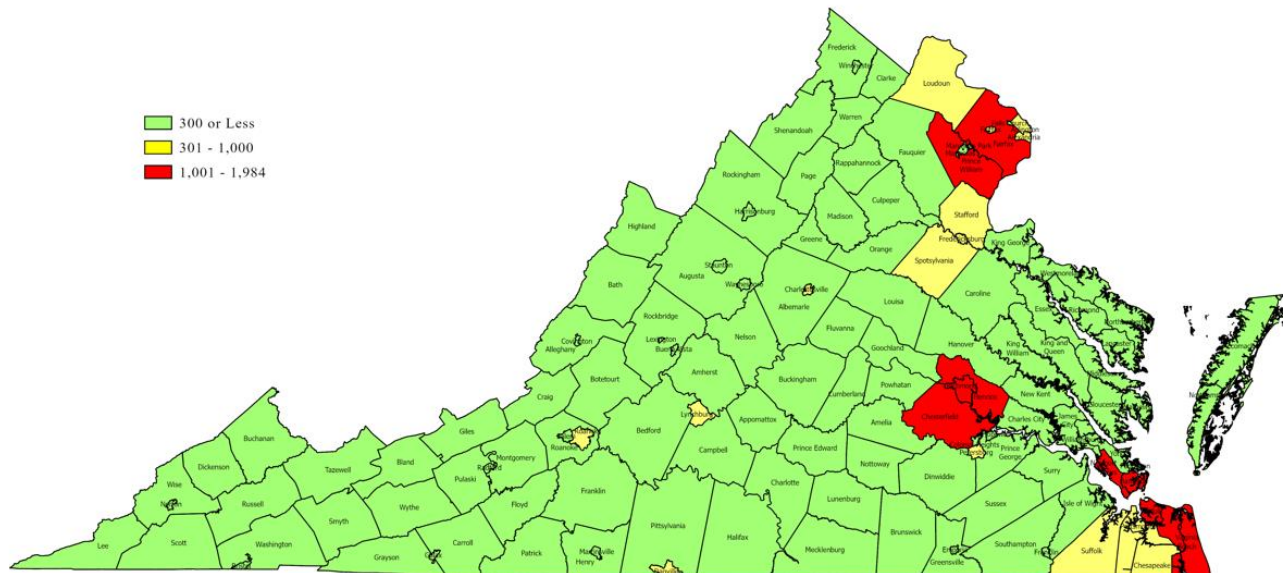
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Initial Unemployment Insurance Claimants by County and City Weeks Ending August 14, 2021 Over August 7, 2021 Change



Map produced by Virginia Employment Commission, Economic Information & Analytics Division, August 2021

Continued Unemployment Insurance Claimants by County and City Week Ending August 14, 2021



Map produced by Virginia Employment Commission, Economic Information & Analytics Division, August 2021